



Holy Trinity News

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Kilbride Road, Dunoon, Argyll
www.holytrinitydunoon.wordpress.com

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Baptism and Wedding

There has been great excitement at Holy Trinity in this last couple of weeks with both a baptism and a wedding. You can read more about these later in the Newsletter.

The decision by Justice Minister Kenny McAskill to release Megrahi who is terminally ill has caused great controversy in the media.

Below is the response by our Primus. Do you agree or not? Please let us know.

Primus responds to decision by Justice Minister Kenny MacAskill to release Lockerbie bomber

Thursday 20 August 2009

The Most Rev David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church says:

‘The decision to release Lockerbie bomber Abdelbaset Ali al-Megrahi is a brave political choice taken in the face of strong pressure from outside Scotland. We respect and honour the courage which the Scottish Government has shown.

‘On one side of the balance is the suffering caused by this appalling act of terrorism and the need to sustain public confidence in our system of justice. On the other side is the need to consider whether, in circumstances such as these, justice should be tempered with mercy and compassion.

‘This decision sends to the world an important and positive message about our values.’

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What's Ahead

This month we are delighted to welcome the Reverend Paul Fletcher who will be with us to celebrate the Eucharist on Sunday 13th September.

We are pleased to welcome Bishop Martin on Sunday 20th September who will be with us to celebrate the Eucharist. We will have lunch with Bishop Martin and Elspeth and say farewell to them before they go to St. Paul's Rothesay for Evensong at 4.00pm and then head south to Exeter for their retirement.

We wish them every blessing in this new phase of their life.

On the 20th September we are marking ‘Back to Church Sunday’ when the idea is to invite someone back to church. Cards are available.

Dates for the Diary

We look forward to welcoming the Reverend Peter Rice back on 18th October when we will celebrate Sea Sunday. To encourage you to give generously to Missions to Seafarers, there is more about their ministry on page 7.

Address given by Bishop Bob Gillies, Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney at Crathie Kirk, 16 August 2009

1 Kings 2: 10-12, 3: 3-14

Ephesians 5: 15-20

In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Your Majesty, Your Royal Highnesses, my dear friends. First of all may I express my very great thanks to the Minister and Kirk Session of Crathie Kirk for their most warm welcome to this historic church today.

It is a singular privilege to be here with you not least because as the local Anglican Bishop from the Scottish Episcopal Church I bring you the greetings of my Diocese, the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney including as it does, Aberdeen city, a small part of both Kincardineshire to the south east, and Moray to the north west. It encompasses the whole of Aberdeenshire and then, following the trade routes of old, to Orkney and Shetland as well.

It is a singular joy also that our two churches, the Church of Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church, have much in common, ranging from local and personal pastoral concerns involving people and communities, through to the well-being of the nation and of peace and wise governance within and beyond our shores.

One of the often unacknowledged little, but nonetheless quite significant, things we also have in common is the lectionary of readings that many if not most of our churches follow Sunday by Sunday.

I know, for example, that the scripture readings which we heard a few moments ago are exactly the same scriptures as will have been read in just about all the forty four churches of my own diocese.

Others of my clergy colleagues may well have found themselves reflecting on that glorious Old Testament passage where David, now resting in the eternal city, is succeeded on his throne by Solomon.

It is a passage that at first glance may seem remote to many of us though, if you will permit me being personal, the force of it came through strongly to me about two years ago as I was preparing to move from being Rector of a large thriving church in St Andrews to being Bishop of a far flung diocese with responsibility for many small, and some quite fragile, local churches.

When the day of my consecration came in a quite magnificent ceremony in our Cathedral in Aberdeen, my hands were anointed with holy oil for the office and work of a bishop. Very much in the Old Testament manner of a Davidic anointing. There was also a laying on of hands with prayer. And then, most powerfully, the pastoral staff of the bishop, the crozier, was handed to me from our acting diocesan bishop, the Primus, as symbolic of the transfer of authority from him to me.

It was, as you can image, truly dramatic and deeply moving for me individually.

But it struck me then, even in the intensity of the hour, that what happened to me personally, must be so for all of us generally.

Let me explain and expand.

In his response to God's prompting Solomon is recorded as wishing for "an understanding mind", and with it the discernment to distinguish between "good and evil" and all of this in relation to the people "in whose midst" he has been given authority.

Had I had the wisdom of Solomon I might have prayed that prayer on the day of my consecration as bishop. I don't think I did in actual terms, but I can recount to you that I vividly recall thinking that what had happened to me specifically, and what call had come to me actually, needed also to be true of everyone "in whose midst" I was called to be servant.

Now I use the word 'servant' here, deliberately, not least because the word servant is also to be found in that same prayer of Solomon as recorded in today's first reading. In fact it is repeated three times: in verses 6, 7 and 8. In translation and as used here, 'servant' can mean just about anything from literally being a slave to someone who represents and acts for another in a position of high responsibility and honour.

To some this call comes specifically and when it does we must faithfully respond. But, as I'm suggesting to you, it also comes to each of us more generally but

..... Sermon from Bishop of Aberdeen

nonetheless individually and personally. And it does so without exception and with a similar demand for response.

You may well say to yourself, “no it doesn’t, I’m not worthy for the task”. If you do say that to yourself, then you’re in good company for Solomon said just the same, “I am only a little child” were his words. And he adds, “I do not know how to go out or go in”.

But there he is nonetheless. Praying for what was translated in today’s scripture as an ‘understanding mind’ though the better translation is a ‘listening heart’. Solomon prayed for a listening heart so that he could respond to what God was asking of him.

Solomon’s prayer for the wisdom of a ‘listening heart’ is something we all must seek, and like him seek it from God.

God has called and placed each one of us alongside others who will in many and different ways rely upon us, as simultaneously we rely upon them.

The well-being of each of us personally extends to the well-being of the community around us and onward to the well-being of the nation, and to those of you who are from overseas to your own people and to your own country as well.

God calls us, he places us and he consecrates each and every one of us to have that same ‘listening heart’ for which Solomon prayed and thereby to continue the faithful work of a ‘servant’ before him in the ‘midst of the people’ whoever we are and wherever we are.

May you be blessed as you listen for God’s call. And may you be blessed as you seek to respond. Amen.

+Robert A Gillies
Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney

Pastoral Care

Dinkie McEwen is the contact for all pastoral care situations. (telephone 01369 705257) This may be someone who needs Holy Communion brought to him/her or someone who is ill and/or housebound and needs a visit.



Baptism



The Baptism of Charlotte Erin Kate Deehan took place on Thursday 27th August. The Reverend Hugh Lee conducted a beautiful service and we were delighted to welcome our newest member into the church and to welcome her parents Tracy and Marius and her older brother Thomas. Charlotte was so well behaved all through the service. The Deehan family reside in Ireland but have Scottish links through Tracy.

Wedding

On Saturday 5th September the wedding took place between Verity Watling and Cillian Morgan. It was a joyous occasion and it was lovely to see all the family and friends, a number of whom had travelled from Ireland for the occasion.



Obituary

We regret to announce the death of Claire Tulloch on Friday 4th September 2009. We send condolences to her daughter and the rest of the family.

Meet Sharron Barnard



When did you first come to Holy Trinity?

I have been coming to Holy Trinity for around two years now, though we have lived in Dunoon for 20 years

Tell us a little about where you were before and what brought you to Dunoon?

We hail from Derbyshire and moved up to Dunoon for Steve's work in 1989.

Apart from Church, how do you spend your time? What are you passionate about?

Most of my time is spent looking after the family; Steve, Andrew 21, Mathew 19, Michael 17 and Paul 13. Yes I am surrounded by men! My female companions are our two dogs; Bella the black lab and Holly the cavalier king Charles spaniel. Andrew is in the army, though he has been at home the past year doing recruiting and latterly a three months leadership course with the Princes Trust. The service Kimberly conducted before he went to Afghanistan will always be one of my most treasured memories. Mathew is now in Aberdeen about to start an honours degree in social work. Michael has just gone in to sixth form at the grammar school. Paul, who is autistic, has just gone in to second year and is coping remarkably well considering the difficulties he has.

In my spare time I like to play with textile art and quilting. I am currently doing a City and Guilds design course in the subject.

My faith is central to my life.

What do you like about Holy Trinity?

I have found the liturgy so very beautiful and the church tranquil.

I have become friends with so many wonderful people here and would like to thank them for welcoming me.

What do you do (or have you done) around Holy Trinity? What do you enjoy about it?

I have always liked flower arranging and enjoy taking my turn arranging the flowers for the services.

I have taken part in the book group and recently was co-opted on to the fabric group.

What is your favourite hymn and why?

I have many favourite hymns and each speaks to me at different times in life. At the moment I am revisiting 'Here is love' by William Rees and Robert Lowry -

Here is love vast as the ocean,
Loving kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of life, our ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.

Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten,
Throughout heav'ns eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion,
Fountains opened deep and wide,
Through the floodgates of God's mercy,
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.

Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
Flowed incessant from above,
And heaven's peace and perfect justice,
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Words: William Rees (1802-1883)

Music: Robert Lowry (1826-99)

Growing Together



Luke 8: 22-25

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?..

This month's challenge is to look at Luke Chapter 8 verses 22-25. The version above is the NRSV. You might like to choose your favourite version.

Write a description, or a piece of dialogue, or a poem arising from what this passage says to you. Or draw a picture. Or paint. Or make a collage. And bring the results to church so's we can share. Let's have them all by 27th September.

We may even publish some in a future Newsletter

Christine McIntosh

Fabric

We now have the results of the analysis of the mortar for the Church, so we should quickly see the repair of the loose cross and missing slates.

The Architect plans to make a visit to inspect the church while the roof work is being done.

We hope to be in a position to tackle the rot soon and to that end will be taking the plaster off the sacristy and the corridor. If anyone can help with that (a very messy job we understand), please tell any Vestry member.

Maureen McKellar

Church Break-in

Unfortunately there was another break-in during August. The burglars got into the sacristy but fortunately did not get into the church. Sadly one of the new stained glass windows in the sacristy needs to be repaired yet again. The police told us that St. Munn's had also been broken into on the same night.

Vestry Report

The Vestry met on 12th August.

During the Vacancy at each Vestry meeting, there is discussion and agreement on the forthcoming services and a verbal report on the pastoral care of members from Dinkie McEwen. The Vestry is also spending considerable time looking at the property issues and the related financial issues.

At the last meeting we discussed 'Back to Church Sunday'. This is a national initiative and our Diocese is encouraging us to be involved. The Vestry agreed it should be marked on the 20th September when the Bishop is present.

There was also discussion on Bishop Martin's visit to us on 20th September and the idea of a pot luck lunch was suggested.

Points to Ponder

Some people come into our lives and quietly go, others stay for a while and leave footprints on our hearts and we are never the same.

Unknown author

Back to Church Sunday

We are marking Back to Church Sunday at Holy Trinity on Sunday 20th September, the day the Bishop is coming. The idea is to personally invite someone to join you in attending the Church Service. Individuals are asked to invite any Episcopalian in the area or anyone who has lapsed from church. Cards are available to send.

Vacancy News



This month the representatives from St. Paul's came through to meet the representatives from Holy Trinity to discuss the repairs necessary to the Rectory. The meeting was held in the Rectory which enabled the St. Paul's team to see firsthand what needed to be done.

The Organist Writes

The Organist has been very busy again this month. He played at the Service of Baptism which helped make it very special. We look forward to singing the Kilbride Mass again at Bishop Martin's final service with us.

From the Counting House

The Finance Team have also been hard at work as the end of the financial year fast approaches. Few of us realize how much hard work goes into the preparation of the accounts, the audit and then the presentation to the AGM. We send a big 'thank you' to Chrissie and Richard on behalf of us all.

The 'Roof Fund' continues grow with small amounts added to it as challenges are completed. Please continue to think of more ways to raise funds to keep the roof over our heads. Each little bit makes all the difference.

The £50 Pledge Challenge

Flea Market

Alan Neale and his daughter Fiona took another stall at Kilmun Flea Market and made a further £20. Congratulations to them both - that takes their challenge total to over £120.

Tie Dye Tee Shirts

Congratulations to Graham who has now raised at least £125 for his Tie Dye T Shirts.

Trinidad Talk

Mac has still to finalise a date for his Trinidad talk. Watch the pew sheet for the date.

Holy Trinity Recipe Book

Recipes are coming in now for the Holy Trinity Recipe Book. If you have a good recipe, please pass it to Sharron for inclusion.

Poetry Books

Limited edition poetry books by Christine McIntosh are now at the back of the church at £5 each.

Christian Chuckles

Maurice donated 5 books which were quickly sold with a profit of £30 to the roof fund. Well done Maurice!

Silk Painting Workshop

A silk painting workshop is being planned for a Saturday in the autumn. An expert in this is coming over specially to do this. If you are interested please let Maureen McKellar know.

Any new ideas for the £50 challenge? What can you do? All efforts in aid of the Church roof fund.

The Wider Church



Caring for seafarers
around the world

It started like any other day for the Revd Stephen Thanapaul, the Mission to Seafarers chaplain in Tuticorin. He had been visiting ships in port when news broke that a chemical tanker with 22 Indian crew onboard had been hijacked by pirates using rocket propelled grenade launchers and machine guns off the coast of Somalia. Within hours, families of the crew had descended on the local seafarers' centre seeking help and advice from The Mission to Seafarers.

“Two of the families came to see me to ask for my assistance in contacting the shipping company,” said Stephen. “They asked me to intervene on their behalf and to give them spiritual support during the crisis.” And so began daily visits by Stephen to their homes, telephone calls to the shipping company for news and information and petitions to the Indian Government for help in securing the ship's release.

“Some of the families were particularly affected by the event and I concentrated a lot of my time trying to help them come to terms with what had happened and to pass on any information which I felt would help them deal with the situation. I would make daily visits to their homes, praying and talking with them. All of them had a strong Christian faith and I believe it was this that helped them through some of the darkest times.”



Piracy has been high on the news agenda in recent months and there are warnings that it is on the increase. At the end of 2008, the International Piracy Reporting Centre reported that there had been 49 ships hijacked with 889 seafarers being taken hostage. Of the hostages, 32 were injured, 11 killed and 21 are reported as missing – presumed dead. The trauma of suffering a piracy attack can leave a lasting negative impression in the mind of a seafarer and, in some cases, can cause him to never return to sea.

It is with the victims of piracy, as with all seafarers, that The Mission to Seafarers reaches out with a message of love and hope in a harsh and often inhospitable environment. For over 150 years, it has faithfully carried out an international ministry which now covers 230 ports around the world. Port chaplains visit seafarers of all races and creeds on their ships, offering them a welcome and fighting for their rights when they have been ignored.

In over 100 ports, The Mission to Seafarers offers a practical seafarers' centre where crews can relax away from their ships, find friendship and help with any problems they might have onboard or at home. We also provide high quality communication facilities through telephones and the internet for seafarers to contact their loved ones. In addition to the Mission's popular low-cost phone card, in 2009 The Mission to Seafarers is launching a SIM card for use in a mobile phone. This will allow seafarers to keep in touch with their families at a reasonable price without having to pay excessive phone charges.

The work we do is vital but we can't do it without prayers and support. So, on Sea Sunday, please remember seafarers and The Mission to Seafarers as we continue to care for seafarers around the world.



Notable dates – Sept/Oct

Thurs 3 Sept	Evening Prayer 5.15
Sun 6	Trinity 13 – Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
Thurs 10	Evening Prayer 5.15
Sun 13	Trinity 14 - Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Paul Fletcher
Thurs 17	Evening Prayer 5.15
Sun 20	Trinity 15 - Sung Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Martin Back to Church Sunday
Thurs 24	Evening Prayer 5.15
Sunday 27	Trinity 16 – Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
Thurs 1 Oct	Evening prayer 5.15
Sun 4 Oct	Morning Prayer

Readings

Trinity 13	Proverbs 22, 1-2, 8-9, 22-23 James 2, 1-10, (11-13), 14-17 Mark 7, 24-37
Trinity 14	Proverbs 1, 20-33 James 3, 1-12 Mark 8, 27-38
Trinity 15	Proverbs 31, 10-31 James 3, 13- 4, 3 & 7-8a Mark 9, 30-37
Michael & All Angels	Genesis 28, 10-17 Revelation 12, 7-12 John 1, 47-51
Trinity 17	Job 1, 1 & 2, 1-10 Hebrews 1, 1-4 & 2, 5-12 Mark 10, 2-16

Church Contact Points

Name	Contact
Rector	Vacancy
Pastoral Care	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
People's Warden	Mac McLean (705497)
Rector's Warden	Pauline Revill (704731)
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway (830400)
Alternate Lay Rep	Di Tennent (840779)
Vestry Secretary	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Vestry Treasurer	Chrissie Holliday (704927)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)
Book Group	Di Tennent (840779)
House Groups	To be advised
Mission to Seafarers	Pauline Revill (704731)
Christian Aid	Brian Dineley (870073)
Bible Study	To be advised
Coffee Rota	Pauline Revill (704731)
Flower Arranging	Sharron Barnard (706240)
Worship Rotas	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
Newsletter	Maureen McKellar (703058)

Please send any articles or views by email to mpmckellar@aol.com or by post to: Maureen McKellar, Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AY